

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2000/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100080030-7

CHANNELS

PAGES

AGE	COI	ACF	TOG	TPE	MRO	DCI	TRI	1
SCM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
CLASSIFICATION								
CONFIDENTIAL								
MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR								
CIA/OCI/WHIZ								740821
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SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION
CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: ②

DATE: 21 AUGUST 1974

SUBJECT: FRENCH TO MAINTAIN NUCLEAR FORCE

REF : [REDACTED] 25X1A2g

FRENCH PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC'S STRONG ENDORSEMENT OF FRANCE'S
INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR FORCE--COMING ONLY ABOUT TWO WEEKS AFTER PRESIDENT
GISCARD'S DETAILED REVIEW OF DEFENSE MATTERS--INDICATES THAT THIS
PILLAR OF GAULLIST DEFENSE POLICY WILL BE GIVEN CONTINUED HIGH PRIOR-
ITY IN FRENCH DEFENSE PLANNING.

CHIRAC'S STATEMENT ON MAINTAINING THE NUCLEAR FORCE IS THE
FIRST MAJOR DEFENSE PRONOUNCEMENT FROM A HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL
SINCE THE CLOSE OF PRESIDENT GISCARD'S "WEEK OF REFLECTION" ON
DEFENSE MATTERS. DESPITE WIDE MEDIA COMMENT, GISCARD AND HIS
CONFIDANTS REMAIN TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THIS

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REVIEW, AND RESULTS ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE KNOWN UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT PRESENTS ITS 1975 DEFENSE BUDGET IN THE FALL.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES REMAIN A CRITICAL POINT IN FRENCH POLICY. SOME CRITICS OF THE DEFENSE POLICY HAVE CHARGED THAT FRANCE HAS STARVED ITS CONVENTIONAL ARMY IN ORDER TO BUILD UP ITS EXPENSIVE NUCLEAR OPTION. E-2 IMPDET.

(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: W EUR DIV AND NIO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

AND OSR

DATE: 21 AUG 74
ORIG: [REDACTED] /WHSS 25X1A9a
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